



Justin G. Tanner, Associate Director

Office of Legislative, Education & Intergovernmental Affairs

Justin G. Tanner was appointed by the White House in 2015 to serve as the Associate Director for Legislative, Education and Intergovernmental Affairs at the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA), U.S. Department of Commerce. In his new position, Mr. Tanner will work to expand the Agency's focus on policy development and advocacy. He joins MBDA after having served as Senior Advisor to the Associate Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration's Office of Government Contracting and Business

Development.

Prior to joining the Obama Administration, Mr. Tanner worked in external affairs for Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed, where he helped manage the City of Atlanta's relationships at the state, local and federal levels of government. In the first two years of the mayor's initial term, he worked as a communications aide in the Mayor's Office of Communications. Before joining City Hall, he served as Director of New Media on Mayor Reed's 2009 citywide campaign and 2010 Inaugural Planning Committee. He has also worked in the private sector for corporate law firms, Fortune 100 companies, and small/medium-sized businesses.

Mr. Tanner is the recipient of the Howard University School of Business' "45th Anniversary Alumni Exemplar Award," the National Bar Association's "Maynard Jackson Legacy" and "Trailblazer Under 40" awards and the Morehouse Alumni Association's "Dr. Joseph Draper Service Award." He has been profiled in the Atlanta Business Chronicle (40 Under 40), Atlanta Tastemaker Magazine, Atlanta Tribune: The Magazine, emPower magazine and Who's Who in Black Atlanta (14th & 15th Editions). He's a graduate of The Aspen Institute's Socrates Program, Leadership Buckhead, LEAD Atlanta, Outstanding Atlanta, New Leaders Council-Atlanta and the Truman National Security Project.

He received his JD from Vanderbilt University Law School in Nashville, TN and his BBA from Howard University in Washington, DC. While matriculating at Howard, he became a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.—Alpha Chapter.